



JOHN ENGLER, Governor

BOVINE TB ERADICATION PROJECT

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Beef cattle herd in Alcona County, Northeast Michigan diagnosed with bovine TB

Michigan Bovine Tuberculosis Eradication Coordinator Bob Bender today announced that the Michigan Department of Agriculture (MDA), Michigan State University (MSU) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) have confirmed that a small beef cattle herd in Alcona County has been diagnosed with bovine Tuberculosis (TB).

“This herd was identified after cattle from a previously infected herd were traced to this herd,” Bender said. “Whenever there is a confirmed case of TB, all animals that may have been exposed are traced and tested.”

USDA epidemiologists and MDA officials are working with the herd’s owner to determine further action. Currently, producers have two options when a herd is diagnosed with bovine TB: The owner may opt to depopulate the herd and receive indemnification (reimbursement), or undergo a stringent quarantine test-and-removal plan.

To date, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources has tested 39,500 wild white-tailed deer with a total of 285 confirmed to be bovine TB-positive. In addition, 17 carnivores in Northeast Michigan have been found to be infected with bovine TB. MDA, USDA and accredited veterinarians have conducted over 167,750 TB-tests on cattle, goats and bison statewide. Bovine TB has been confirmed in 11 cattle herds in Northeast Michigan. Additionally over 8,400 privately-owned cervids have been TB tested. One cervid herd was confirmed bovine TB-positive and was depopulated.

The Bovine TB eradication project involves a multi-agency team of experts from the Michigan Departments of Agriculture (MDA), Community Health (DCH) and Natural Resources (DNR), Michigan State University (MSU) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

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